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Middlebury Register.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1886.

A HERO is the name of a Republican candidate for Congress in a Louisiana district; but even his name won't elect him there.

MR. BLAINE is down in his native State, Pennsylvania, making a campaign tour for the Republicans. His reception is described as very cordial.

THE obnoxious trustee law of the last session is apparently doomed, several bills for its repeal having been introduced already. The first one to move in the matter was Mr. Knapp of this town, who is taking a leading position in the House.

THE division of economic ornithology of the department of agriculture has collected material for a series of bulletins upon the relations of some common birds to agriculture. The strongest condemnation is visited upon the English sparrow, which is said to be destructive to fruits and of little consequence as a worm-destroyer.

BOSTON'S pride, "The Hon. John L. Sullivan," as the New York Sun calls him, was shot in the face during the progress of a row he was having with the proprietor of a liquor saloon at Hopkinton, Mass., Wednesday, and is in a dangerous condition. Those who have watched the "champion's" career have predicted that it would close thus. The country contains men whose loss would be mourned more than his.

THE contest of 1880 over the government of Rutland is renewed in the legislature this session. Then the proposition was to incorporate the whole town as a city; now it is proposed in one bill to set off the village of Proctor and in another to make a separate town of West Rutland. Something ought to be done to change the condition of things, as any one who has ever attended a March meeting there will cheerfully admit. The town has so many voters that it is impossible to transact business with comfort or carefully to consider questions that may come up. When the voters of a town become so numerous as those of Rutland are, democracy gets to be mobocracy, and the ends of the town system of voting are defeated by the magnitude of the gathering when the voters get together.

THE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

There is evidently a disposition on the part of the legislature to do something for the betterment of the schools of the State, but just how that very desirable end is to be attained is the problem.

It is much doubted, however, whether it would be wise to make the town system compulsory. Unpopular measures are seldom of benefit, whatever their scope, and if the town system of schools were imposed upon the people, they might not receive any appreciable good from it. For after all it lays with the people to decide whether the schools shall be efficient or the opposite, and no system can effect a radical change. Two classes are especially to blame for the present condition of things—the rich who have few children to send to the district schools and the ignorant who don't care a straw whether their children are educated or not; and it is too much to expect that any system will reach both these classes.

But there is one thing the legislature can safely do, and that is to require each town to vote at every March meeting on the question of the adoption of the town system. Then the friends of that system will have a chance to show their strength, and if the majority don't think it is what they want they can say so by their votes. A few towns change each year, and under this plan perhaps in time the whole State would be converted, if the system worked well.

MR. EDMUNDS RE-ELECTED.

Ever since the September elections it has been apparent that the Republican members of the legislature would vote almost unanimously for the return of Mr. Edmunds to the United States Senate, and his most ardent admirers could not have wished for heartier support than he received Tuesday at the hands of both branches. The small wing of the party that voted for Judge Veazey did so without his consent. The only redeeming feature of their action was their choice of a candidate, who is admirably qualified for the place; but he doesn't want it now, and the people are satisfied with the present incumbent, as the vote of their representatives shows.

An interesting correspondence growing out of the election is published. Representative Edwin Fisher wrote to Mr. Edmunds last week as follows:

I write in behalf of several members of the general assembly, before voting for a United States Senator, to inquire respectfully if we have any assurance of your support for the nominee of the Republican national convention for President of the United States in 1888.

Mr. Edmunds sent the following reply:

Edwin Fisher, House of Representatives—Dear Sir: I have yours of the 14th, and, replying with candor and in all kindness, I would express my great astonishment at receiving such a communication. My standing and conduct in and devotion to the Republican party for the last 25 or 30 years are, I think, perfectly well known to all intelligent people in the State, and perhaps to a considerable number beyond its borders. If in any one or more of these long years my behavior has been such as to justify any honorable and honest Republican in suspecting my fidelity to our party or to those great principles and purposes, then that Republican ought, I think, to vote against me whenever I am proposed for any place. If the contrary is true, as it is, such a question as yours is one to which a self-respecting man can make no reply. Not doubting that you will appreciate the force of what I have said, and with every good wish for you and all sincere Republicans, and for our great party, on which I believe depend the truest liberty and largest welfare of the people of our country, I am respectfully yours,
GEORGE F. EDMUNDS.

A FALSE ALARM.

Something of a sensation was caused throughout the State on Friday last by the publication of a letter written by Third Auditor Williams of the United States treasury department and transmitted to the secretary of the treasury the previous day. In it was recited the fact that the State of Vermont was indebted to the general government in the sum of \$543,780 for arms and equipments furnished to the State in the years 1864 and '66.

The truth of the matter as brought out by investigations made since the publication of the dispatch is in substance this: By an act of 1808 the general government has annually apportioned the sum of \$200,000 among the States for the support of the militia. Up to 1864 Vermont had been paid \$187,980.22 under this act and was entitled to \$191,105.22, leaving a balance in her credit of \$3125 at that time. After the famous St. Albans raid of Oct. 19, 1864, 12 regiments were organized in the State to protect the northern frontier, and to arm and equip these forces the State drew her allowances in advance with the understanding that the general government would pay back the sums thus expended after the war was over. Arms, etc., were accordingly received from the general government to the amount of \$630,061.15; and the State expended \$200,000 more to uniform these troops. In 1875 the general government offered to take back what remained of the war material furnished in 1864 and 1865, but the State officials declined to accept the offer and otherwise disposed of what was not needed. Auditor Williams arrives at the figures he gives as representing the State's indebtedness by subtracting from the \$630,061.15 charged to the State various sums with which the State has been credited, thus reducing the amount to the figures first given—\$543,780. But it is the opinion of military men that the \$200,000 expended by the State should also be credited and that the balance can only be settled by offsets on the quota to which the State is annually entitled under the act of 1808. The Rutland Herald says:

The agitation will undoubtedly result in an effort to press new claims against the government, and perhaps succeed in wiping out the entire indebtedness, so that the State militia can be properly equipped with the allowance which now goes to offset the claim. It is pretty certain that the general government will be asked to pay the \$200,000 which it cost to uniform the forces raised for protection of the northern border. An officer who is well informed in military matters also has proof of a claim of about \$16,000 against the war department, which was overlooked when the State treasurer's accounts were confused by mismanagement a few years ago.

EIGHTH REGIMENT REUNION.

The next reunion of the Eighth regiment of Vermont volunteers will be held at Montpelier on the 2d of November; business meeting in G. A. R. hall at 3 p. m., when ex-Gov. Barstow and H. E. Hill will read papers on the service of the regiment in Louisiana and Virgin-

ia. In the evening there will be a banquet at the Golden Fleece.

LEGISLATURE OF VERMONT.

THURSDAY, Oct. 14, 1886.

Among the bills introduced in the Senate were: To prevent unjust discriminations by railroads; providing that if any person by himself, clerk or agent sells or has on hand with intent to sell any liquor or cider in violation of law he shall be fined \$20.

In the House Mr. Knapp of Middlebury introduced a bill restoring Jerry Morgan to the rights of citizenship, and another providing that when a person is before a justice of the peace on trial for being intoxicated, if he takes an appeal, pays the fine or otherwise fails to enter his appeal in the county court the justice shall cause the respondent to come and make disclosure, as now provided. Mr. Kingsley of Salisbury introduced a bill providing for a payment of \$6 fee by litigants in chancery who ask the appointment of special masters, to be paid to the clerk and payable as taxable costs. Mr. Ripley of Mendon put in a second railroad commission bill; Judge Poland, a bill repealing that part of the election law of '84 which deprives those guilty of desertion or felony of the right to vote, and Mr. Bill of Albany, an amendment to the liquor law making the penalty for the first offense of selling a fine of \$20 and imprisonment for one month; that ball shall never be less than \$100, and if forfeited the amount of the ball shall in no case be reduced. The speaker announced as the special committee on temperance Messrs. Williams of Bloomfield, Kingsley of Salisbury, Pitkin of Fair Haven, Dally of Richmond, Higbee of Charlotte, Reynolds of Alburgh and Hildreth of Newport.

FRIDAY, Oct. 15.

These bills among others were introduced in the Senate: To prevent the spread of contagious diseases; to punish obtaining certificates of registration of cattle and other animals by false representations; exempting from taxation debts due evidenced by promissory notes bearing a rate of interest not exceeding four per cent; to regulate insurance (similar to the "valued policy" bill previously introduced in the House); and a petition from the women of Sheffield praying that the right to vote in municipal elections be given to women.

Mr. Knapp introduced in the House a bill providing for the compilation of the decisions of the supreme court relating to matters within the jurisdiction of the probate courts, 3000 copies to be printed and distributed at the expense of the State. Bills were also introduced to make the person maintaining a barbed-wire fence responsible for damages to persons or animals injured thereby; to empower a person suddenly assaulted by a dog to kill the brute, and to direct the treasurers of savings banks and trust companies to transmit to the listers of each town where depositors reside a list of them and the amount to their credit on the 1st of April of each year.

A joint resolution passed each branch directing the joint committee on the reform school to visit the institution.

MONDAY, Oct. 18.

In the Senate a bill introduced provides that the superintendent of schools of each town shall furnish for distribution at the expense of the town text-books to be taught in the schools of the town.

In the House one of the bills introduced provides that each town in which the school district system exists shall in the years 1887 and 1888 vote upon the question of abolishing the district system. Sec. 2 prescribes how the vote shall be taken. Sec. 3, secretary of state to notify selectmen to insert an article in the warrant for the annual meeting; \$20 fine, if selectmen do not comply; State's attorney to prosecute and recover the same. Another bill provides a penalty for scattering noxious weeds, such as chickory, wild carrot and sweet clover.

TUESDAY, Oct. 19.

In the Senate Mr. Valentine introduced a bill which provides that text-books used for the instruction of the children in the public schools shall be uniform throughout all towns and school districts of the State, and that such text-books shall be selected by five suitable persons appointed by the State. The bill is called the State Text-Book committee, and shall enter into their duties the 1st of January, 1887, and hold their offices for five years. Senators Blake, Hale and Hall were made a special committee on temperance. Senator Stanley introduced this joint resolution, which was ordered to lie:

Whereas, It being true that our valuable public lands in vast tracts are passing into the possession of aliens, which promises to anticipate at no distant day in a dangerous monopoly and a species of tenancy akin to that of Ireland and wholly at variance with the spirit of the policy of American institutions; therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, That our senators and members in congress be and are hereby requested to give their early and earnest attention to this subject and labor for such legislation in the premises as will secure the soil and for the best interest of the American citizen.

Resolved, That the secretary of State be directed to furnish a copy of these resolutions to each of the senators and representatives in congress from this State.

At 2:30 the Senate voted for United States Senator for the six years from the 4th of March next. Mr. Edmunds, nominated by Senator Wells of Burlington, received 29 votes and W. H. H. Bingham one, cast by the Franklin county Democratic Senator.

The House gave Mr. Edmunds 139 votes. Mr. Bingham 27 and Judge Veazey 8. Mr. Edmunds was nominated by Dr. Chas. Moore of Huntington. Mr. Bingham by Mr. Haselton of Burlington and Mr. Veazey by Mr. Smith of Vershire. Among the measures introduced in the House were these: By Mr. Brittle of Weybridge, providing that in default of maintaining properly his portion of a division fence the person so negligent shall be liable for all damages done to the stock of the opposite party; by Mr. Knapp, providing that referees, commissioners and auditors in probate appeals shall be paid by the State; by Mr. Currier of Troy, providing that automobile couples shall be placed on all freight cars; by Mr. Allen of Ferrisburgh, legalizing the grand lists of that town for the years 1880 to 1886 inclusive.

THURSDAY, Oct. 20.

The only measure of consequence introduced in the Senate was one prohibiting the running of railroad trains on Sunday.

In the House nothing of general interest was done.

The joint assembly convened at noon to complete the election of United States Senator. The president announced that Mr. Edmunds had been re-elected, and a committee was appointed to wait upon him and request his presence. When he appeared and had been introduced, Mr. Edmunds thanked the joint assembly for the honor conferred upon him and said:

"I know from experience how impossible it is for any man to live up to his own ideal of what he should be and do, either as a citizen or as a representative of citizens in any character or trust. And so I feel more deeply the kindness of the people of my native State and yours as their representatives in overlooking the many faults that in the many years of my service I must have committed, and again choosing me with an expression of confidence so nearly unanimous. But I think it right to say, as a citizen of this old State of ours, that what the people have done and what you have done is far more than any personal honor to me or indication of your confidence in me. It is, I think, and as I understand it, the old true Green Mountain courage, and honesty, and purity, of the people who, in spite of combinations and calumnies, understood their own business in their own way and chose to do it. [Applause.] And so in this sense I cannot take these honors to myself; they are the honors that belong to a self-respecting, self-understanding and intelligent people; they are the honors that belong to States without regard to size of territory or accumulations of wealth, as equals in the great sisterhood that makes our nation, and that, constituted as our State is of a homogeneous people, of an intelligent people, of an upright and Christian people are to be, so long as there is any hope for free government in the world, a guide and beacon for the future.

"I accept, too, with more than an ordinary sense of solicitude and responsibility for the future. As you know, I must from experience have seen how heavy the work is, how great the responsibilities are, how difficult and sometimes sudden the emergencies are that call upon your representatives and the representatives of other States to take action in respect to affairs that affect the welfare of all. And I have seen, too, how rapidly, even in a body where the term of office is for six years, the representatives of other States appear and disappear. In the time during which our State has honored me and my colleague (whom I am sorry not see here this moment), every Senator except ourselves has been more than once changed, and the faces that were new at first have disappeared from the scene of political action as the representatives of their States and new men continually come and continually go, while Mr. Morrill and myself seem, through your kind favor, to stand there something like Camel's Hump and Mansfield and see the world go by.

"We must all agree that there is something of sadness to a Vermonter who leaves his home and his hills and one begins to feel lonesome far away from home as the years go by and feel more and more desirous that the place of his birth should be for all the year round the place where he should live, among his friends and neighbors.

"The responsibilities and labors to come within the next six years, in common with all our duties, continue to grow heavy and more difficult; the more extensive the population of our nation becomes, the more diverse its influences, the more disturbing the causes that seem to be just now like an epidemic in our social system sweeping over our own land and others, come to the front for legislative action, the more difficult are the problems your representatives are called upon to deal with; and so, more heavy is the responsibility.

"But there is always to us at Washington, both my colleagues in the House and my colleagues in the Senate, a great and constant consolation and inspiration, if I may say it, that we know that the people of Vermont have fixed political opinions. We know that they almost without respect of party, even upon some subjects, are almost absolutely unanimous in the judgment that they have in respect to the methods by which a government should be carried on; in respect to the protection and development of the labor of American citizens, in respect to the universal dissemination, so far as the general government can do it, of the system of common schools for the education of young men and women and children everywhere. And I might mention many other subjects in respect to which the representatives in this State in the congress of the nation know in advance precisely what the intelligent, sturdy and persistent public opinion is, that is to co-ordinate the forces that we may exert with those of our associates from other States. This you may believe, gentlemen, is a profound source of strength and comfort to those who represent you.

"But this is not the occasion, Mr. President, for me to go into topics like this. It is only for me to repeat to you, and to you, gentlemen of this joint assembly, and to your constituents, the expression of my sincerest gratitude for what you have done to and for me, so long, and of my hope that you and yours will live to see this State continue as she has been, something of a guide and beacon in the civilization and the liberty of our country, and that our sister States may grow up more in those tolerant and just methods of law for all and among all for which our State is, I think, a conspicuous example.

In the afternoon a joint assembly was held for the election of Supreme court Judges. Chief Justice Homer E. Rorer and Associate Judges Ross, Powers, Taft and Walker were re-elected by acclamation. For fifth associate judge there were two nominees, Judge Rowell and Hon. D. C. Denison of Royalton; the latter got six votes, however, to 251 for Judge Rowell.

—Prince Louis Joseph Jerome Napoleon and his party from France, who have been on a tour around the world, arrived in Chicago Tuesday from San Francisco.

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COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE—Estate of

Joel Randall.

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Hon. Probate Court for the District of Ad-
dison, Commissioners, to receive, examine
and adjust all claims and demands of all per-
sons against the estate of Joel Randall, late
of Middlebury, in said District, deceased, and
all claims which he had in effect the 1st day
of April next, from 1 o'clock p. m. until 4
o'clock p. m., each of said days, and that six
months from the 1st day of October, A. D.
1886, is the time limited by said Court for said
creditors to present their claims to us for ex-
amination and allowance.

Dated at Middlebury, this 18th day of Octo-
ber, A. D. 1886.

E. WAINWRIGHT, { Comm.
J. B. BENEDETTE, {